

11-15-95



The Provo River has dropped considerably but the fishing can still be productive, The German Browns are spawning and anglers would be wary of "Redds".



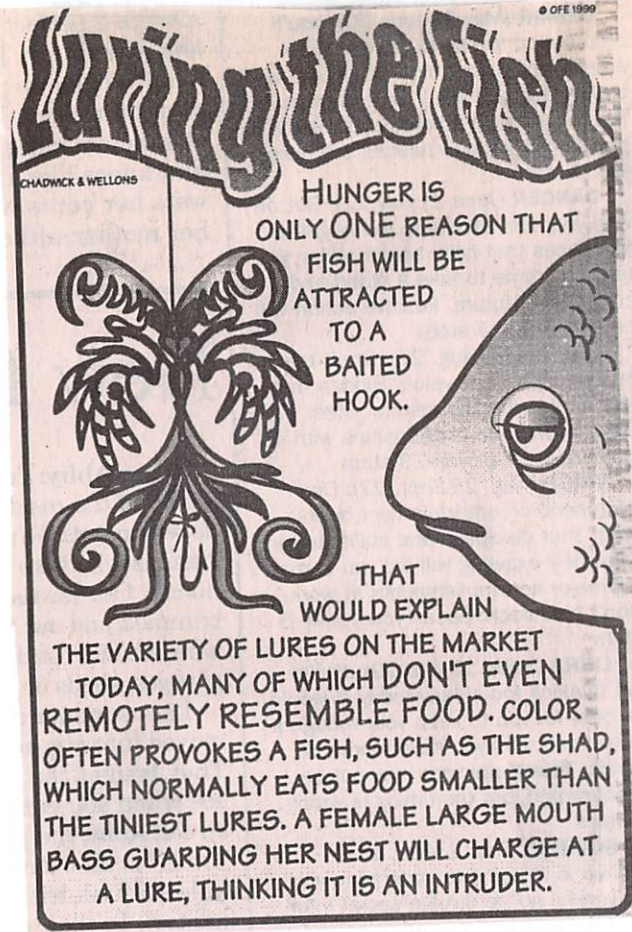


Daily Herald Photo/Matthew R. Smith

## Huge brown caught

John Hutchins of Orem has bragging rights this month for the biggest trout caught on the Provo River. This 18-pound brown with the mammoth girth was caught below Deer Creek Dam on a specially-tied fly called a sow bug. For more information on his fly-fishing expertise call 225-4868.





# Provo River offers great fishing for this weekend

Thursday, November 30, 1995 THE DAILY HERALD, Provo, Utah — Page D3

By REX INFANGER  
Special to The Daily Herald

**PROVO RIVER** — Good fishing on the upper end with Hare's Ear Nymphs and Rapalas. Fishing has been fair through the urban section with worms. The water is down and low and you have to move slowly and use a downstream retrieve to catch them.

**DEER CREEK** — Slow fishing from the shore with a few trout being picked up off the north side of the island with Green Sparkle Power Bait. Trollers are picking them up with pop gear and a worm.

**JORDANELLE** — Good fishing from the boats and the shore. Use a black 16th ounce marabou jig from the boats and fish around the stick ups off the points. Use Green Sparkler or Rainbow Power Bait on a sliding sinker rig from the shore. Make sure once the bait is in the water that you do not move it or it will get covered with moss.

**DANIEL'S CREEK** — Fair

section. The water is low and clear. You have to move slow in order to catch them.

**STRAWBERRY** — The fish are really schooled up. If you are not catching them, move to another spot. Fishing has been horrible to excellent, depending on the location. Black or olive green marabou jigs have been picking up the fish or use a worm and marshmallow combination.

**SCOFIELD** — Slow fishing with a few fish being picked up with pop gear and a worm. Troll from the marina away from the dam.

**HOBBLE CREEK** — Good fishing on the upper end with worms. This last snowstorm won't slow down the fishing in the streams as much as it will the lakes, so Hobble Creek and the small streams are a great place to go this weekend.

**AMERICAN FORK RIVER** — Fair fishing with Panther Mar-

retrieve and right time. A 1/2 inch silver blade with yellow body has been working.

**TIBBLE FORK RESERVOIR** — Slow fishing from the shore with an occasional fish being picked up on a fly and a bubble. Use a small Griffith's Gnat, size 18 to 20.

**UTAH LAKE** — White bass are being picked up in the boat harbor off the boat docks. Use a marabou jig tipped with worm.

**EAST CANYON RESERVOIR** — Fair fishing from the shore with Red Sparkle Power Bait on a sliding sinker rig.

**WILLARD BAY** — Walleyes are still being picked up. Use jigs or Rapalas. The wipers that were planted this summer are really growing and should provide a great fishery in the next couple of years. They are just not big enough yet.



3-14-96

50 cents

## Counting fish



Daily Herald Photo/John Blodgett

Heidi Robertson, a zoology major at BYU, spends Wednesday afternoon with her ecology class electro-fishing in the Provo River in Provo Canyon. The device she holds delivers a shock to passing fish that temporarily immobilizes them, allowing others to net and count them. This gives the class an estimation of the river's brown trout population.







## OUTDOORS

# Provo proves big lure to fly fishermen

*Weber and Ogden also offer good fishing opportunity in the winter.*

**By Ray Grass**

Deseret News outdoor editor

PROVO RIVER — It seems unnatural. Throwing flies in the winter simply doesn't seem seasonably correct, like throwing snowballs in July.

Drive through Provo Canyon, however, on a good day and watch the river's edge. There are almost as many flies airborne now as in the summer . . . but these are hand-tied flies of thread, feathers and beads, and connected to a "5X" tippet on a floating flyline.

Fly fishing doesn't stop with fall or winter, or with snow and ice, or with lower flows from reservoirs or dams. It's an anytime-sport for those willing to try.

Last week on the Provo, under near-spring temperatures, fly fishermen took to the Provo like flies to a summer picnic. On some stretches it was sometimes difficult

not to tangle lines. On one section, which ran about a block and featured some spawning beds and a nice elbow of deep water, a dozen fishermen had picked out their stations.

They cast upstream, tried for the natural drift, worked the line,

watched, and would then cast upstream again. It didn't seem to bother them that before the drift had ended there was a new line and fly in the same flow and starting to drift.

This is because the Provo has a reputation for good, tough fishing.

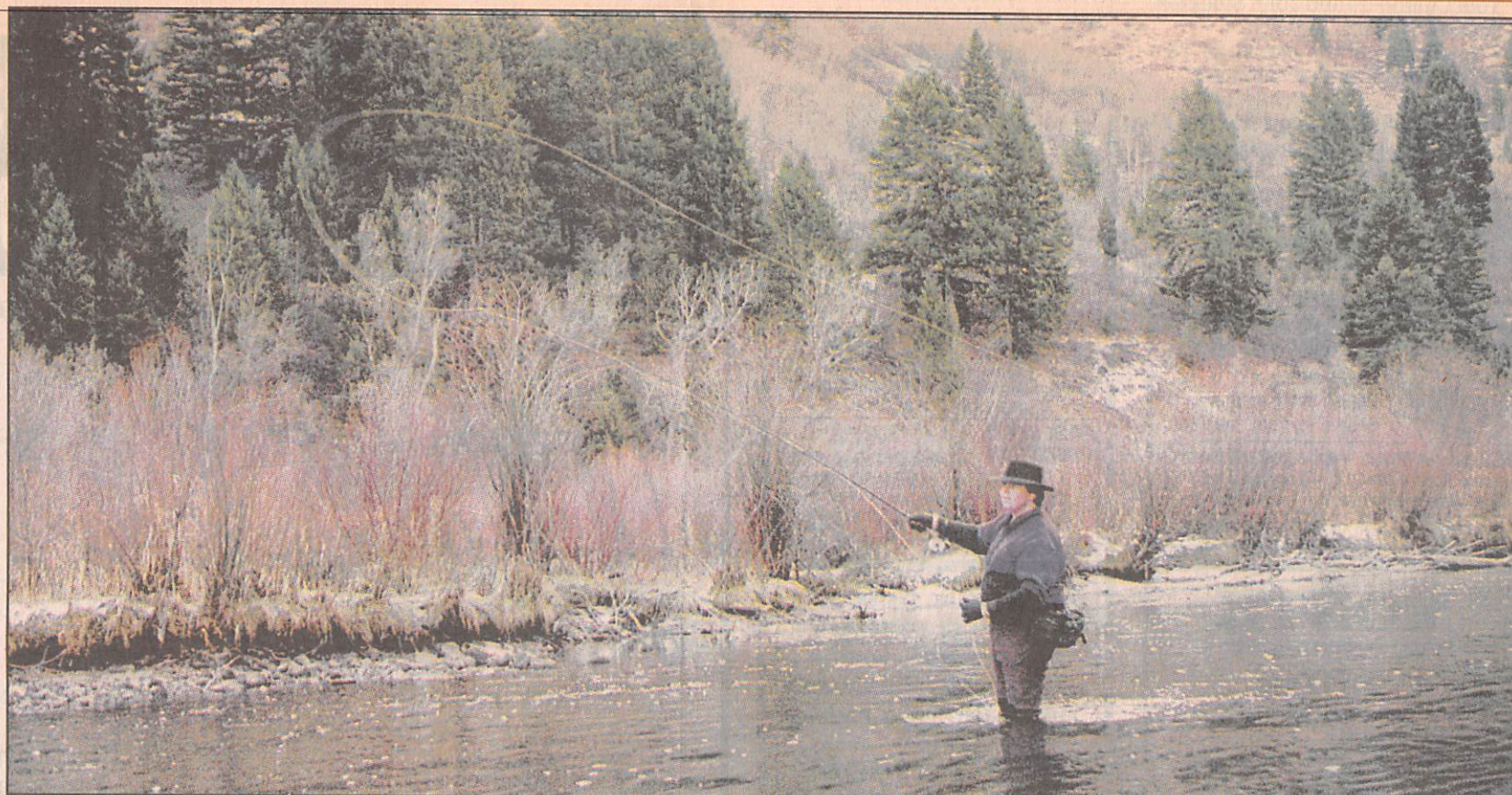
Also, it's close to lots of people. From the center of Salt Lake City it's less than a hour from startup to first cast.

It is also one of Utah's few remaining "Blue Ribbon" streams. Fish in the Provo from Deer Creek dam downstream about 10 miles,

are protected from all but lure and fly fishermen. And even those fishermen, if they choose, can keep only two browns under 15 inches, and no cutthroat or rainbow.

But fishing on the Provo is

*Please see **FISH** on D2*



TOM SMART, DESERET NEWS

**A fly fisherman enjoys a stretch of the Provo River all to himself. Some days that's not always possible because of the popularity of the water.**



# FISH

*Continued from D1*

tough. There are a lot of fish in this river, but like most rivers that are fished often, the fish tend to be wiser. They instantly know what looks real and what isn't, and what flows naturally and what doesn't.

So the secret, says Pat Milburn of Angler's Inn, is to present the fly "naturally." And, of course, the right ones.

"At this time of year you'll want to fish with nymphs. Occasionally, on real warm, sunny days you may want to try a surface fly. A nymph worked along the bottom, though, is dynamite," he said.

The cast should be a comfortable distance upstream, anywhere from straight up to slightly across the stream. The secret is, again, in the drift. The rod tip should be held up — to keep a minimum amount of line in the water — and there should be slack in the line in the shape of "Ss."

In rigging the line, the nymph can be tied on the end with a split shot about 12 inches up. Or, for the better fishermen, the shot can be placed at the end, with two droppers, each with a different fly, placed about a foot apart.

"The problem some fishermen have is they don't put on enough weight to get the nymph down. If there's not enough the fly will drift over the fish, and if there's too much it will hang up. It may take one, two, three split shot . . . use whatever it takes to get it moving along the bottom," he adds.

An often used technique frowned on by the fly-fishing purist, is to use a fly with spin-casting gear. Some anglers will take spin-

ning and fly rod, and use whichever works best. Placing the split shot on the end and hanging two droppers works well with spinning gear.

What Milburn recommends, too, is for fishermen to look past the Provo during the colder months and see what's out there.

"There are a lot of good waters," he points out . . . Like:

Weber River. It offers some excellent winter fishing. It's best with nymphs, but can be fished with spinning gear with baits or nymphs tipped with a wax worm.

Ogden River. It's low in the winter and the fish are a little spooky. There are a lot of browns in the river and they do like dry flies and nymphs.

Blacksmith Fork. This is a good nymph water, and can be good with dry flies on warmer days.

Currant Creek. This is a good place to fish nymphs.

Fish Creek. This, too, is a good nymph water.

And, of course, the Green River. Glow Bugs and nymphs work well, but so do jigs, Rapalas and flies on a spinning rod.

"There are a lot of good waters out there beside the Provo. It might pay to consider some of the other spot.

"The Weber, for example, offers good whitefish fishing in the winter. Nymphs are made for whitefish. They're aggressive and once you find a pocket of fish, you usually end up catching more than one. They're a good fish to practice nymphs fishing on, and a fun fish to catch," notes Milburn.

There are some good fly fishing opportunities for the anglers looking to get out in the cooler air . . . and they're not any further away than the Provo.



Charlie Thompson, regional fisheries manager for the DWR, works tree trunk into place on the Provo River. The tree will be home to small fish.

RAY GRASS, DESERET NEWS



## Fish 'houses' being built for young Provo River trout

*Logs and large rocks create a habitat on one of Utah's favorite fishing spots.*

By Ray Grass

Deseret News outdoor editor

PROVO CANYON — It only took a few days, a couple of dozen boulders — large ones — some cable and 10 large tree trunks to finish the first phase of the new housing project.

Ten more units will go in next

Central Region for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, as he set one of the trees in place. "The one thing it lacks is habitat for juvenile or young-of-the-year. We felt this was one place we could improve the river."

The Provo River is Utah's most popular flowing fishing spot. A survey in 1995 recorded more than 225,000 fishing days spent on the river.

It's popular because it's close, it's scenic and it holds a lot of fish . . . "between 3,000 and 4,000 per mile.

"is size,"

## Log Structures Benefit Provo River Trout

Trout in a section of the Provo River will soon enjoy improved habitat, thanks to a Division of Wildlife Resources log structure placement project funded through Wildlife Habitat Authorization dollars provided by anglers.

Log structures will be placed in the river, about two miles below the Deer Creek Reservoir Dam, beginning October 16.

The project will last three to five days and include a 300 to 400 yard stretch of the river. Anglers are advised that some heavy equipment will be used upstream from the "railroad trestle" during this time.

The purpose of the structures is to improve fish habitat by providing large woody debris and pockets of water in which young trout can feed, rest and avoid the stronger current. These large logs will be anchored into the river by attaching them to large, submerged boulders.

The log structures will be placed in the river as soon as water flow drops to 100 cfs, which should happen around October 16. The lower water level will allow the necessary equipment to be used and the time the river drops will be prior to the brown trout spawning period.

Division biologists expect the log structures to be used by young fish immediately after completion.

Funding for this habitat improvement project came from anglers who purchased a Wildlife Habitat Authorization prior to buying a fishing or combination license.

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OVO on D2

10-15-97



# Provo River continues to provide big catches

## Some suggest river should be closed during brown spawn

by Ray Grass  
Deseret News outdoor editor

12-1-98

**PROVO CANYON** — It has been said, on more than one occasion, that if the Provo River were in a more remote area of Utah, or better still in a remote area of Montana, it would be listed on the national registry of great rivers.

As it is now, it mostly attracts Utah fishermen familiar with its habits and interested in a close, convenient place to fish. It's five minutes from Provo, 45 minutes from Salt Lake City, 90 minutes from Ogden . . . a nine-foot, five-weight rod, full-floating line and at this time of year, either a glow bug or nymph bounced along the bottom and, bang, a nice brown.

The Provo River has been and continues to be one of the state's hot spots. It is also a river that requires great care while fishing.

The popular brown trout are at the peak of their annual spawn. Which means?

"Fishermen need to be careful and not disturb the (spawning beds). They're easy to see. Look for gravel that looks like it has been washed and then placed in furrows. If fishermen stay close to the banks, they should be OK," said Charles Thompson, regional fisheries chief for Utah Division of Wildlife Resources in the Central Region.

Some have suggested the river be closed during the spawn. Thompson doesn't support such a move.

"If you close the Provo in November, then it wouldn't do any good to open it before June. The eggs won't hatch until mid- to late May. That's a long time to keep it closed," he said.

"Besides, we don't need a lot of recruitment. There are a large number of large fish already and the only ones we need to replace are natural losses and some fishing mortality. We don't need a lot of fish to replace the losses. We can tolerate fishing if the fishermen are careful."

During the spawn, browns, and other fish as well, are more aggressive feeders. One reason is because some eggs break loose from the nests and are picked up by waiting fish. The fact that the glow bug resembles a floating egg makes it very attractive. Other popular late-fall patterns include sow bugs, midge nymphs and



Warmer temperatures and good flows have resulted in fine fishing.

Woolly Buggers in black, brown or olive.

Too many fishermen, however, think the Provo only runs between Deer Creek and Holmstead dams, a six-mile section of river in Provo Canyon.

Truth is, sections above and below are equally productive.

The section of the Provo between Jordanelle and Deer Creek, which carries the same regulations as the canyon section — that only artificial lures and flies can be used, only two browns under

Please see **FISHING** on D6



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Some encouraging news for those who believe it's how many play the game — not just how you play — that counts the most.

Participation levels for high school sports on the local and national levels have risen again, according to a survey conducted by the National Federation of High School Activities Associations.

Across the country, some 6,352,775 student-athletes participated in officially sanctioned high school sports during the 1997-98 school year. That's an increase of almost 200,000 from the previous year. (Students are counted more than once if they play multiple sports.)

Title IX continues to reap benefits for girls sports. More girls participated in sports in 1997-98 (over 2½ million) than

to take part in all athletics and activities (debate, drama, etc.) combined jumped by almost 3,000 (112,245 to 115,152) over that same period.

The study's results thrill Evan Excell, who is the executive director of the UHSAA. He takes a "the more, the merrier" attitude when it comes to participation by high school students.

"That's what high school activities are all about," he said. "We could really care less about who wins the championships, and we're not here to provide scholarships . . . .

"The thing we're really after in our office is participation. We believe participation does great things to kids."

And he has a list of facts to prove it.

and nine in 10 believe sports contribute to health and fitness.

As is the case across the country, more schools in Utah have basketball teams than any other sport for boys or girls.

For 1997-98, all 115 Utah high schools had boys basketball teams and 114 had girls hoops clubs. In the United States, there were 16,617 boys and 16,428 girls basketball teams. (Kind of puts into perspective the accomplishments of last year's nationally ranked Provo boys and Mountain View girls teams, eh?)

Football, for obvious reasons, was by far the leader in participation for all sports and both genders. Over 8,000 Utah boys took to the gridiron for 90 schools last season in Utah. And 3,001 girls hit the hardwood in the Beehive State last year.

confirmed that a man approached him about bugging the locker room. The investigator confirmed that he was approached and said it would be a "safe assumption" to assume it was the father of one of the players, but he declined to install the device.

The investigator said he first thought the proposition was a joke, and Christensen, who heard about the bugging attempt during the 1997 season, said he

had a similar reaction.

**MURRAY GIRLS CHOSEN:** BYU-bound soccer standout Jeni Willardson of Murray High and her younger sisters, Katie and Lisa, have all been selected to Utah's Olympic Development Program (ODP) soccer teams for their respective age groups.

Murray juniors Heather Hunt, a forward and midfielder, and Jessica Walton, an outside half-back and forward, were also named to Utah's ODP team.

**16 Cyprus (0-0)** **Class: 4A**  
1997 record: 12-9. 1997 finish: Region 5's second-place team tied for seventh in state. **Outlook:** Star volleyball player Katrena Ellett averaged 23.3 points per outing last season.

**17 Clearfield (1-0)** **Class: 5A**  
1997 record: 11-10. 1997 finish: Region 1's fourth-place team lost in the first round to Taylorsville. **Outlook:** The Falcons return four starters. They just escaped with a win over Bountiful.

**18 Provo (0-0)** **Class: 4A**  
1997 record: 9-12. 1997 finish: Region 6's fifth-place team lost in the first round to Cyprus. **Outlook:** Transfer Chanell Rose (from Snow Canyon) headlines team with no returning starters.

**19 Kearns (1-0)** **Class: 5A**  
1997 record: 11-10. 1997 finish: Region 2's fifth-place club lost in first round to Layton. **Outlook:** Hot shooting led gritty Cougars to a blowout of taller Highland squad last week.

**20 Union (0-0)** **Class: 3A**  
1997 record: 22-2. 1997 finish: Region 10 champions took second in 3A tournament. **Outlook:** The Cougars have little height, but they've got plenty of speed and quickness.

## RANKING BY CLASS

<b>Class 5A</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>Prev.</b>	2. Snow Canyon	0-0	
1. Mtn. View	0-0	—	3. Pine View	0-0	
2. Orem	1-0	—	4. N. Sanpete	2-0	
3. Skyline	0-0	—	5. Morgan	0-1	
4. Bingham	0-0	—	<b>Class 2A</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>Prev.</b>
5. Alta	1-0	—	1. Beaver	0-0	
<b>Class 4A</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>Prev.</b>	2. San Juan	0-0	
1. Timpview	1-0	—	3. Enterprise	0-0	
2. Olympus	1-0	—	4. Juab	0-0	
3. Lone Peak	1-0	—	5. Parowan	0-0	
4. Fremont	1-0	—	<b>Class 1A</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>Prev.</b>
5. Logan	1-0	—	1. Panguitch	2-0	
<b>Class 3A</b>	<b>Record</b>	<b>Prev.</b>	2. Dugway	0-1	
1. Union	0-0	—	3. Wayne	1-1	
			4. Rich	0-0	
			5. Escalante	2-0	

## PREP NOTES

**INTRIGUE IN LOGAN:** A private investigator was asked to bug the Logan Recreation Center last fall to record the suspected use of foul language by Logan High football coach Perry Christensen, who was dismissed for allegedly using foul language at players.

The Logan Herald Journal reported that a private investigator